**Discuss the relationship between Kinship and the Dreaming in Aboriginal spirituality.**

Aboriginal spirituality is inextricably linked to the land; and the Dreaming stories reflect this. The Dreaming stories contain all the information needed for Aboriginals to live in a particular place and prosper. The Dreaming explains why the land is a critical part of Aboriginal spirituality. It is through the land, which the Dreaming is activated. The land is where the Dreaming is expressed, through the stories passed down from generations. The land is also the resting place for Aboriginal ancestral beings, hence plays the role as a mother for all Aboriginal people. S. Knight quotes *“We don't own the land, the land owns us. The land is my mother, my mother is the land. Land is the starting point to where it all began. It's like picking up a piece of dirt and saying this is where I started and this is where I'll go. The land is our food, our culture, our spirit and identity.”* The Dreaming is also important because it explains the Aboriginal notion of time, which is metatemporal, a concept that presents the past, present and future as a complete and present reality. The term Kinship comes hand in hand with the term Dreaming as it looks at the responsibilities which each Aboriginal has in their clan. Kinship is a complex system of belonging to a particular clan and the relationship, which each Aboriginal shares through their totems. Both the Dreaming and Kinship govern the day-to-day life of Aboriginal people. These terms underpin beliefs and practices of Aboriginal spirituality. These stories become almost meaningless when they are removed from their own geographical context, hence the dispossession of the land having a profound effect on Aboriginals. On the whole, Aboriginal spirituality is not easy to understand. Those who are initiated into different complexities can only understand the complex areas of belief and practices. Kinship and the Dreaming encounter a relationship, which underpins ethical and moral teachings, which are the true central essence of Aboriginal spirituality.